

**Minutes of Horseheath Parish Council Meeting held on
Monday 16 September 2013 at 7:45 p.m. in the Village Hall**

Present: **Stuart Miller (Chairman)** **Denise Lindsell (Vice Chairman)**
 Ninian Bickerton **Tori McKillen**
 Christine Newman

In Attendance **Roger Hickford (County Councillor)** **Bernard Yallop (Parish Clerk)**

The meeting began at 7:45 pm.

1. Apologies for Absence Richard Southwell sent his apologies. The two district councillors, Andrew Fraser and Richard Barrett had to attend another meeting and sent their apologies.

2. County Council Report

Roger briefly mentioned the Guided Bus Route. It was likely to cost another £40m but a refund of £30m was in the offing. He mentioned the A1307 in the area of Public Transport as opposed to Highways, under the general heading of Local Transport and Strategy in the Local Plan. He pointed out that the growing population in Haverhill and the effect on the A1307 was not being taken into account. For more information on this topic he recommended a visit to his web site at www.rogerhickford.com and clicking on the tab marked A1307.

Denise said that the footpath along the side of the A1307 between Cardinals Green and Montfort House had almost disappeared beneath grass and weeds. Roger said that he would inform Matthew Belton, Technician, Local Projects. He would also remind him about the overhanging hedge close to the Cardinals Green junction.

3. Minutes of Parish Council Meeting on Monday 8 July 2013

The minutes were agreed and signed.

4. Matters Arising

4.1 *Affordable Housing* There are signs that work on this project is starting.

4.2 *King's Stone* This project is in hand.

4.3 *Winter Gritting at Cardinals Green* The clerk filled in a Gritting Route Change Request Form, giving the reason for changing the route to a primary route as:- it is used as a school bus route. Roger Hickford said that he had also filled in a Form giving the same reason.

4.4 *Standing Orders* Stuart said that the only significant change to Standing Orders since 2004 was the adoption of the latest code of conduct. He will produce a fresh set of Standing Orders and issue copies to the parish council and the clerk. To help identify in the future that it is the latest version he will inserting the date of publication and give the file a fresh name. He invited the parish council to read this copy of Standing Orders from time to time and let him know whenever it finds something it considers needs updating.

4.5 *Safety Report 2013* No cases were found where safety was an issue. Several wooden objects were identified as needing wet weather protection. The Village Pump needed a fresh coat of paint and the site needed weeding.

4.6 *Wheel Ruts on A1307 Dual Carriageway* Apparently nothing has been reported about the wheel ruts produced by heavy vehicles on the A1307 dual carriage way close to the Dean Road crossing since the last meeting. Not everyone at the meeting agreed that it was a problem. The correct procedure is to use the County Council Website and supply the correct details. Any member of the public can do this without having to trouble the parish council. The clerk agreed to do it this time but he has to inspect the site first as he was not sure of the precise details.

4.7 *Next stage in Local Highway Improvements* The discussion on this item is reported in item 6.5 under the general heading of Finance.

5. Planning

5.1 Parish Council

S/1406/13/FL Erect a PVCu conservatory to the rear of the property at 8 Alington Terrace, Cardinals Green for Mehta and McKillen was approved.

S/0397/13/FL Change of use from amenity land to residential for vehicular access at 7 Audley Way for Brooks was approved.

S/1409/13/VC Variation of condition 2 (Approved Plans) and removal of conditions 3 (Residential Occupation tied to use of Office) and 4 (B1 Use of Employment Area) of planning permission S/1721/12 for the change of use of B1 business use buildings to one dwelling (a live/work unit)

including alterations and extension to link buildings together at 1 Limberhurst Court for KD ImpEx Ltd was approved.

S/1410/13/VC Variation of condition 2 (Approved Plans) and removal of conditions 3 (Residential Occupation tied to use of Office) and 4 (B1 Use of Employment Area) of planning permission S/2495/12 for the change of use of B1 business use buildings to one dwelling (a live/work unit) including alterations and extension to link buildings together at 2 Limberhurst Court for KD ImpEx Ltd was approved.

S/1775/13/VC Variation of Condition (Contamination Investigation) of Planning Consent S/0119/13/FL for Erection of 3 Affordable Dwellings following Demolition of Existing Garages for Butcher is in hand.

S/1860/13/FL Two storey side and rear, single storey front and rear extension at 6 Alington Terrace, Cardinals Green for Lindsell is in hand.

5.2 District Council

S/1406/13/FL Erect a PVCu conservatory to the rear of the property at 8 Alington Terrace, Cardinals Green for Mehta and McKillen was approved.

S/0397/13/FL Change of use from amenity land to residential for vehicular access at 7 Audley Way for Brooks was refused.

Two other applications are pending.

6. Finance

6.1 Transfers

On 20/05/13 £140.00 was transferred from the Treasurer's A/c to the Burial Fund Access Account.

6.2 Receipts

Date	Drawee	Amount	Remarks
15/05/13	Two Allotment Rents	£70.00	Plots #2 and#3
20/05/13	Horseheath Parish Council	£140.00	Transfer from Treasurer's A/c to Burial A/c
09/07/13	Burial A/c	£0.15	Three Month's Interest Burial A/c #1
Total		£70.15	

6.3 Payments

The following payments have been made since the last meeting:

Date	Ch No.	Payee	Amount	Remarks
20/06/13	552	Kleen	£30.00	Clean Metal Bus Shelter Windows
01/07/13	553	1 st Horseheath Brownies	£50.00	Litter Pick, S137
09/07/13	554	Aon Ltd	£7.29	Local Council Insurance, Additional Premium
23/07/13		Stationery	£9.91	Petty Cash
15/08/13	555	Linton Village College	£40.00	Two Book Prizes
30/08/13	556	B. Yallop	£465.54	Clerk's Salary
Total			£602.74	

The clerk pointed out that the Jim Johnson Memorial Fund had just gone into the red. Stuart said that we would have to decrease the payment to £30.00 next year.

6.4 Account Balances

On 26/06/13 the balances of the accounts were:-

Petty Cash	£83
Treasurers Account	£15,798
Burial Ground Access Fund Account #1	£1,239
Burial Ground Access Fund Account #2	£19,866
Village Sign Maintenance Fund Account	£4,333
Total	£41,319

6.5 Local Highway Improvements

The parish council was successful in its bid for the Local Highway Improvements Scheme, but under the condition that it contributes 70% towards the costs.

Richard Southwell prepared a report on the Horseheath Traffic Calming method that he and Ninian have been working on for the past two years with the Highways Department and arranged a wide ranging consultation with village residents on potential schemes for calming traffic speeds and flows through the village. The consultation revealed widespread concern regarding speeding cars in all areas on the major through roads of West Wickham Road, Haverhill Road, Linton Road and Cardinals Green. Highways officials have visited and conducted site inspections and made recommendations to

reduce the speed and flow of traffic in the village. These proposals have been refined and were displayed to the residents for suggestions and comments which were duly taken into consideration. The latest plans were issued by Highways on Tuesday 10 September 2013. The County Council said that if the parish council is in agreement work can commence within twelve weeks.

The scheme is based on a gated system at four entrances to the village, namely (1) Linton Road prior to Red Lion; (2) Haverhill Road at junction with A1307; (3) West Wickham Road prior to College Farm near to the Roman Road entrance; (4) Cardinals Green at entrance to Alington Terrace junction with A1307. The gates will have signs indicating the 30mph speed limit and the name of the village and 'Drive Carefully' signs. Another safety feature will be an extend footway at the junction of west Wickham Road and Haverhill Road. This will force vehicles to stop at this junction prior to turning. The total estimated costs for implementing this scheme will be around £14,400 (plus another £2,000 if lighting is included). The Highways Improvement Grant will be £3,000, so the parish council will need reserves of £11,400 (or £13,400 if lighting is included).

The clerk said that his forecast showed that at the end of this financial year the balance of the Treasurer's Account should be a few hundred pounds over £15,000, so there should be enough money to go ahead with the project, without having to borrow additional money.

A long discussion followed and many ideas were aired. Cardinals Green for example needed three sets of gates, not one. It would be necessary to split the work into two phases and claim for another grant in the following year. Roger Hickford reminded the meeting that the grants were issued based on a points system. If some of the work had already been completed in a previous year it will make it more difficult to obtain sufficient points in subsequent years.

Once all the arguments had been heard the parish council voted unanimously for going ahead with the scheme, and it was agreed to apply for more money from the October list to have two more gates installed in Cardinals Green.

It was also decided to resurrect Speed Watch, which needs partnerships with other villages. Roger said that Bartlow was considering starting up again.

6.6 *External Audit*

The clerk has still not heard from the external auditors. The audit was supposed to have been completed in August.

7. **AOB**

7.1 *Aggressive Dog in Cardinals Green* A case of a dog running into the road from a house in Cardinals Green and behaving aggressively towards other dogs on several occasions has been reported. It was agreed in the first instance to mention the matter in The Venture. If it happens again, names will be mentioned, to shame the owner and the police will be asked to take action.

7.2 *Proposed New Scheme for Access to the Burial Ground* Stuart proposed a cheap and simple solution for obtaining access to the burial round in the unlikely event that permission for pedestrian access across the churchyard is denied. It would involve pedestrian access across the allotment site, which is glebe land and a lay-by for parking a hearse. There is an easement that grants permission for access across the glebe land. Paintin, the local Funeral Directors, said that it would be adequate for their purposes. The parish council approved the scheme especially from a financial point of view as it would save the parish council a great deal of money.

7.3 *Parking on Footpath in front of Old Chapel* There had been a complaint that wheelchairs and prams could not get past badly parked cars without going into the road. It is breaking the law, but provided cars are parked sensibly in this particular spot there always has been plenty of room for pedestrians to get by without being inconvenienced.

7.4 *Broken Litter Bin in Haverhill Road by Cricket Field* A Broken Litter Bin was reported. [The clerk inspected the site after the meeting; the litter bin does need replacing.]

7.5 *Rivers Authority* None of the councillors showed any interest in attending the meeting on tributaries to the River Cam.

8. Date of Next Meeting The next meeting will be on Monday, 11 November 2013 at 7:45 p.m. The meeting ended at 9:00 pm.